

## ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a process for the preparation and improvement of D-pantothenic acid-producing microorganisms by amplification of nucleotide sequences which code for ketopantoate reductase, in particular the panE gene,  
5 individually or in combination with one another, and optionally additionally of the ilvC gene, the microorganisms containing these nucleotide sequences, and a process for the preparation of D-pantothenic acid comprising fermentation of these microorganisms, concentration of pantothenic acid in the medium or in the cells of the microorganisms, and isolation of the D-pantothenic acid.

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0960040-40000